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RFQ for DRO Comprehensive Watershed Study

SECTION 1: GENERAL SCOPE

Overview:

The South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office seeks a comprehensive watershed wide mitigation strategy specifically targeting the Pee Dee and Santee Watershed areas of rural South Carolina. The State intends to use a CDBG-DR grant to construct a watershed wide flood mitigation infrastructure which will mitigate against future disasters within these areas. A parallel program using the same CDBG-DR grant will conduct a home fortification program primarily focused on roof structures and manufactured housing unit tie-downs to prevent against substantial wind and rain events. CDBG-DR funding is limited and those competing for this project must have a thorough and demonstrated understanding of the constraints and limitations associated with CDBG-DR funding as well as with the inherent academic social vulnerability (SOVI) considerations associated with Low-to-Moderate income communities.

Under this Request for Qualifications, the State seeks to obtain a hydrological study which will provide information to be used in prioritizing future construction projects that will mitigate flooding risk, specifically to Low-to-Moderate income census blocks within the designated area. The selected firm will determine the most viable and cost beneficial projects to undertake this effort. The study must result in a rank ordered hierarchy of feasible, acceptable, and suitable project solutions enabling the State to subsequently execute future construction contracts for flood infrastructure mitigation. While individual home buyouts are not a major line of effort using this funding, those that are the direct result of a construction infrastructure project must be included in the study. The selected firm must have the capacity to expand the study to other watersheds within South Carolina, if needed.

From the results of this study, the State intends to execute the prioritized construction projects with the outcome of stopping or greatly reducing future flooding in the designated areas. The final study deliverable must have the highest level of credibility based upon expert analysis. Therefore, the State seeks an experienced firm that is familiar with these types of projects and can work within the intent of the program. The selected firm will provide comprehensive data analysis which will stand intense public scrutiny, and the final product must be easily defensible due to its intellectual rigor. The outcome of this strategy allows and enables the State to use further grant allocations to execute the projects. While South Carolina did suffer multiple private dam failures, resolving these issues are not a part of the scope of this study.

Background:

In October 2015 South Carolina was hit with a major disaster which was the equivalent of a 1000 year flood. This resulted in 24 counties being Presidentially Declared Disaster areas across rural South Carolina. In October 2016, South Carolina was hit with a different disaster in the form of Hurricane Matthew resulting in 24 counties being Presidentially Declared Disaster areas. Sixteen (16) rural counties in South Carolina were declared for both disasters. During both emergencies, the vast amount of damage occurred in low-to-moderate income housing in rural areas of the State. Using the HUD CDBG-DR grant, the State undertook a major housing renovation and replacement program which has increased the resilience of these homes. While both disasters were primarily vertical events with the vast majority of damage occurring from wind driven rain, the State did have several rural areas where rising flood waters caused extensive and catastrophic damage to homes and infrastructure. During Severe Storm 2015, this catastrophic event was centered in the area of Andrews, South Carolina located in the Santee Watershed, and for Hurricane Matthew in the town of Nichols, South Carolina located inside the Pee Dee watershed.

While the State has suffered from two disasters, these were separate and distinct from both a disaster perspective, and from a HUD CDBG-DR perspective. Severe Storm 2015 was a substantial rainfall event with the majority of counties reporting over 20 inches of rain, and many receiving over 24 inches within a 24 hour period. This resulted in almost all major rivers flooding as the rain water made its way to the Atlantic Ocean. Storm water systems, tributaries, canals, and rivers in the Santee watershed area all went out of banks. This was a once in a thousand year flood which met or exceeded the existing flood plains in several areas of the State. The vast majority of damage occurred in multiple areas downstream as the flooding concentrated itself in several areas, all of which were subsequently designated by HUD as those Most Impacted and Distressed and those who receive the majority of HUD CDBG-DR grant tax dollars. The counties of South Carolina that were

deemed by HUD as the Most Impacted and Distressed were Charleston, Horry, Florence, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Sumter, Clarendon, and Dorchester. This study will be confined to resolving enduring watershed issues which directly impact the low-to-moderate income citizens residing in these counties. In subsequent contracts, the State intends to award approximately 60 Million dollars to resolve these systematic watershed management and infrastructure issues within this specific geographic area. This dollar amount is to be used as a planning limitation for proposed infrastructure projects.

Hurricane Matthew occurred one year later. This disaster also devastated low-to-moderate income housing primarily with wind driven rain. The significant difference with this disaster occurred from rising flood waters located within the Pee Dee watershed from the substantial rainfall occurring in North Carolina. Hurricane Matthew stalled over North Carolina and inundated the eastern part of that State. Given the natural movement of the Pee Dee watershed, this resulted in a series of rivers, tributaries, and canals in South Carolina overflowing as the water made its way to the Atlantic Ocean. While this disaster was widespread, the vast majority of flooding occurred in the rural portions of Marion and Horry Counties. This study will be confined to resolving enduring watershed issues which directly impact the low-to-moderate income citizens residing in these counties. In subsequent contracts, the State intends to award approximately 45 Million dollars to resolve these systematic watershed management and infrastructure issues within this specific geographic area. This dollar amount is to be used as a planning limitation for proposed infrastructure projects.

While the HUD CDBG-DR grant is specific to the counties which are Most Impacted and Distressed in terms of damage, this study is not restricted to solutions within those designated counties if the root cause is in a different geographic location.

SECTION 2: SPECIFICATIONS

Scope of Work and Deliverables:

1. Within 270 days of contract award, the selected firm will provide the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office with a comprehensive and holistic watershed flood mitigation strategy that meets or exceeds the specifications outlined within this project. The Strategy will be posted on the South Carolina Disaster Recovery website and stand public scrutiny and be easily defensible. The end deliverable to the State includes not only the written document but also a formal briefing which outlines the specifics of the priorities as well as recommendations to successfully mitigate the watershed issues.
2. Provide a weekly email update and a monthly in person progress review to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office for the duration of the contract.
3. Conduct extensive research of all previous watershed studies in the designated areas and provide that data set as well as a formal briefing to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office. This requirement must be completed within 60 days of contract award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm submit an invoice for the first 20% of the overall contract. Should the firm fail to provide the quality or quantity of research and analysis required, or fail to execute within the established time standards, the firm will make acceptable revisions and then will be issued a letter of concern. Any subsequent failures to meet time or quality standards will result in the termination of the contract.
4. Conduct an extensive survey of all potential projects which meet the designated programmatic parameters and provide that data set, as well as a formal briefing to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office. This requirement must be completed within 120 days of contract award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm invoice for the second 20% of the overall contract for a running total of 40%.
5. Develop a preliminary prioritized list of all construction projects which have been screened based upon an established and defined criteria and provide that data set, as well as a formal briefing, to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office. This requirement must be completed within 180 days of project award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm submit an invoice for an additional 10% of the overall contract for a running total of 50%.
6. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the determined projects on the Low-to-Moderate Income Community and provide that data set, as well as a formal briefing, to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office. This requirement must be completed within 210 days of contract award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm submit an invoice for an additional 10% of the overall contract for a running total of 60%.

7. Conduct a Cost-Benefit Analysis on each of the prioritized projects and provide that data set, as well as a formal briefing, to the South Carolina Disaster Recovery office. This requirement must be completed within 240 days of contract award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm submit an invoice for an additional 10% of the overall contract for a running total of 70%.
8. Conduct the final deliverable and all-encompassing briefing within 270 days of contract award. Only after this action is accepted can the firm submit an invoice for the remainder of the contract.
9. The final written and briefing product must include:
 - a. A review of the historical problems associated with systematic watershed associated disasters in the specific areas of South Carolina listed above to include the impact of sustained rainfall on North Carolina draining through South Carolina to the Atlantic Ocean.
 - b. A review of the planning parameters associated with this specific study and its direct tie to CDBG-DR funding for mitigation.
 - c. A thorough literature study of previously published watershed management problems in the affected areas of South Carolina to include all previous studies which directly impact the problem at hand.
 - d. Coordination with all applicable agencies and organizations who are stakeholders in each watershed. As a minimum, this will include the US Army Corps of Engineers, any and all watershed management agencies or civilian equivalent, the State Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Health and Environmental Control, Department of Parks Recreation and Tourism, South Carolina Department of Agriculture, the US Department of Agriculture, and county and local jurisdictions affected.
 - e. A comprehensive listing of all projects considered within the parameters of the strategy as well as a thorough review and definition of each screening criteria used to arrive at the recommended projects.
 - f. A prioritized list of recommended construction projects resulting from the analysis, each in terms of the highest probability of success against future disasters within the specified budget limitations.
 - g. A cost-benefit analysis of each project which reflects the cost benefit achieved by conducting the project and its direct impact upon Low- to-Moderate income communities.
 - h. A review and assessment of the environmental concerns associated with each project and an estimated timeline for the associated environmental clearance.
 - i. Based upon the final prioritized list of projects, a list of homes, including addresses, within both the Santee and Pee Dee Watersheds inside the AE flood zone that will be impacted by the infrastructure construction projects and are recommended for potential buyout.
 - j. A qualitative and quantitative impact statement upon a Low-to- Moderate income population that each construction project will resolve concerning future disasters.
 - k. A holistic risk assessment of each distinct proposed construction project.
 - l. The estimated cost and cost variance with each prioritized construction project to include the following estimates:
 - i. Project Administrative Cost
 - ii. Project Management Cost
 - iii. Project Planning Cost
 - iv. Project Direct Delivery Cost, including all aspects of federal, state, and local permitting as well as all environmental considerations and concerns.
 - m. An analysis of each prioritized project and the benefit it provides for Low-to-Moderate Income citizens in South Carolina concerning future disasters.
 - n. An economic impact analysis of the construction projects on the local economy to include post construction analysis.
 - o. A general topographic schematic of the proposed construction project.
 - p. Geopolitical issues associated with the infrastructure construction.
10. Unless otherwise directed, all briefings will be conducted at the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office at 632 Rosewood Drive in Columbia, South Carolina.

SECTION 3: SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

Submittal shall include, at a minimum, information required in the solicitation, responses to all selection criteria required by the SC Consolidated Procurement Code (found in Chapter 4 of the OSE Manual) and the following:

1. Firm's staffing proposal for this project.
2. Firm's listing of completed watershed wide flood mitigation studies with Executive Summary of the study and the resulting flood mitigation plans. Include staff involved in each study.
3. Firm's Plan of Action and Milestones.

SECTION 4: PRE-SUBMITTAL CONFERENCE

The State will conduct a Non-Mandatory Pre-Submittal conference as part of this process to provide additional project information and expound upon potential questions. This conference will be held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the SC Disaster Recover Office, 632 Rosewood Drive, Columbia, SC 29201. Although attendance is not mandatory, all interested firms are strongly encouraged to attend.

Any questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing (email) no later than 4:00 PM on Wednesday, August 1, 2018. Questions should be emailed to the Agency Coordinator, Clarissa Belton, at cbelton@sccommerce.com. All submitted questions will be addressed at the pre-submittal conference.

Attached is the sign-in sheet from the Non-Mandatory Pre-Submittal Conference held on Thursday, August 09, 2018 at 10:00 am at the SC Disaster Recover Office.

This is for information only and is in no way meant to limit those who are eligible to submit qualifications for this project.

South Carolina Department of Commerce/Disaster Recovery Office
Pre-Submittal Conference— P32-N017-MJ
Date: 08/09/2018 Time: 10:00AM

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

NAME	COMPANY	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
MIKE ROBINSON	MOFFATT & NICHOL	419-622-0174	MROBINSON@MOFFATTNICHOL.COM
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JOE CHAPMAN	AECUM	704-564-0840	JOE.CHAPMAN@AECUM.COM
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Carolyn Cunningham	Stantec	919-475-9171	Carolyn.Cunningham@stantec.com
DAVID REY	ESD Associates	919-868-5155	dkey@esdassociates.com
Margaret Walton	Atkins	803-622-4142	margaret.walton@atkinsglobal.com
Caroline Evans	Anouaa/Leus	803-578-5617	cedevans@anouaa-leus.com
DAVID WASSERMAN	WASSERMAN FRANK	504-524-5308	DAVID@WBAF.COM
Jason Hedrick	McGinnis Taylor	443-619-8868	jmhedrick@mtmail.biz
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ED DICKSON	FLORISSE + NICHOLS	704-577-1357	ed.dickson@fnr-se.com
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Jess Grigg	DOC/SCDRO	803-422-4582	jgriggs@sccommerce.com
MARGARET DEEG	OSE	803-737-0773	mdeeg@nrgo.sc.gov

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

3720, com

SCHEDULE

Office of State Engineer:

Margaret Jordan

SCDRO Program Management Director

J.R. Sanderson

Procurement Officer:

Clarissa Belton

Closing

Margaret Jordan



Pre-Submittal Conference

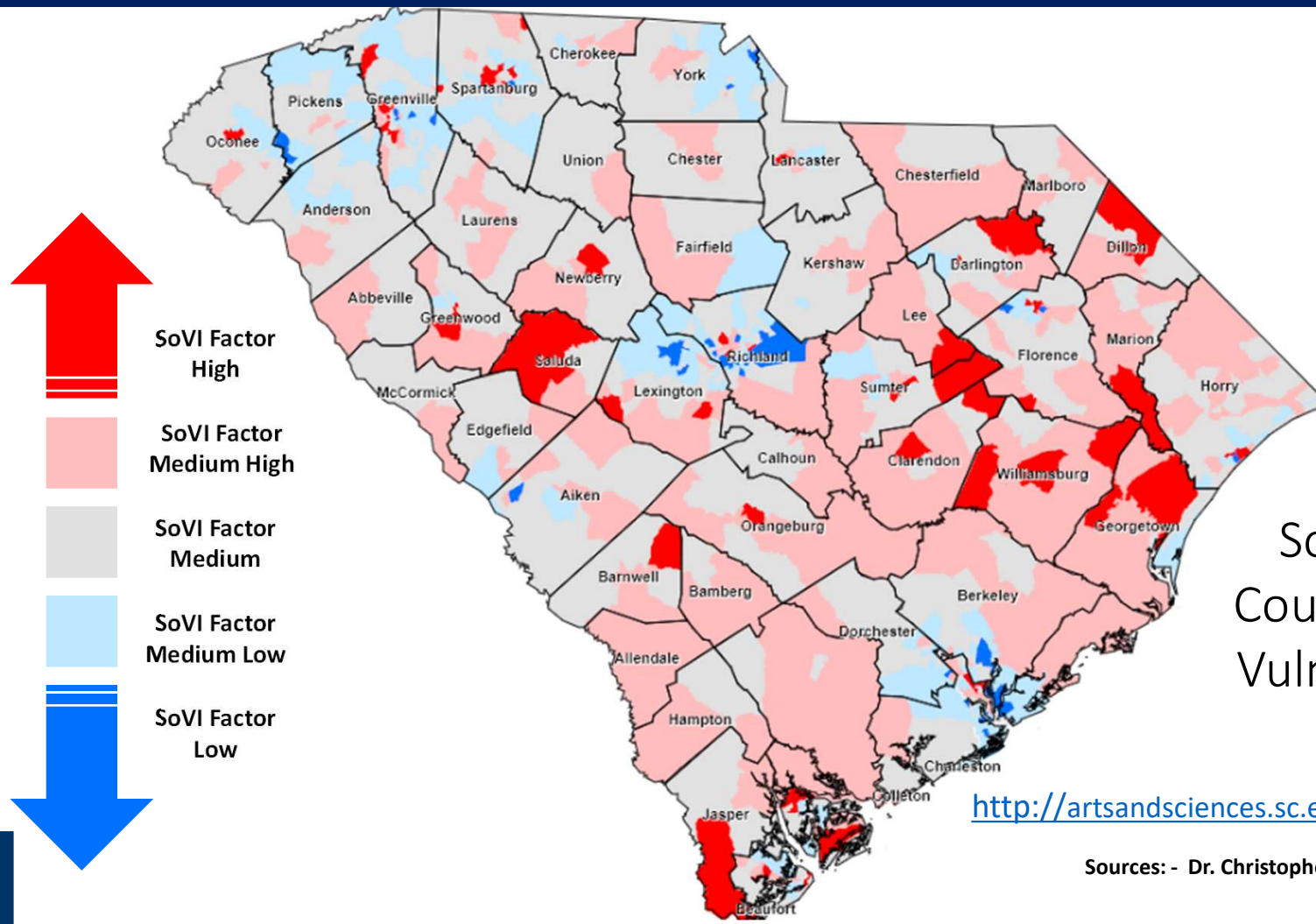
Comprehensive Watershed Study

August 9, 2018
10:00AM



JR Sanderson
Program Management Director
South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office

CURRENT SITUATION



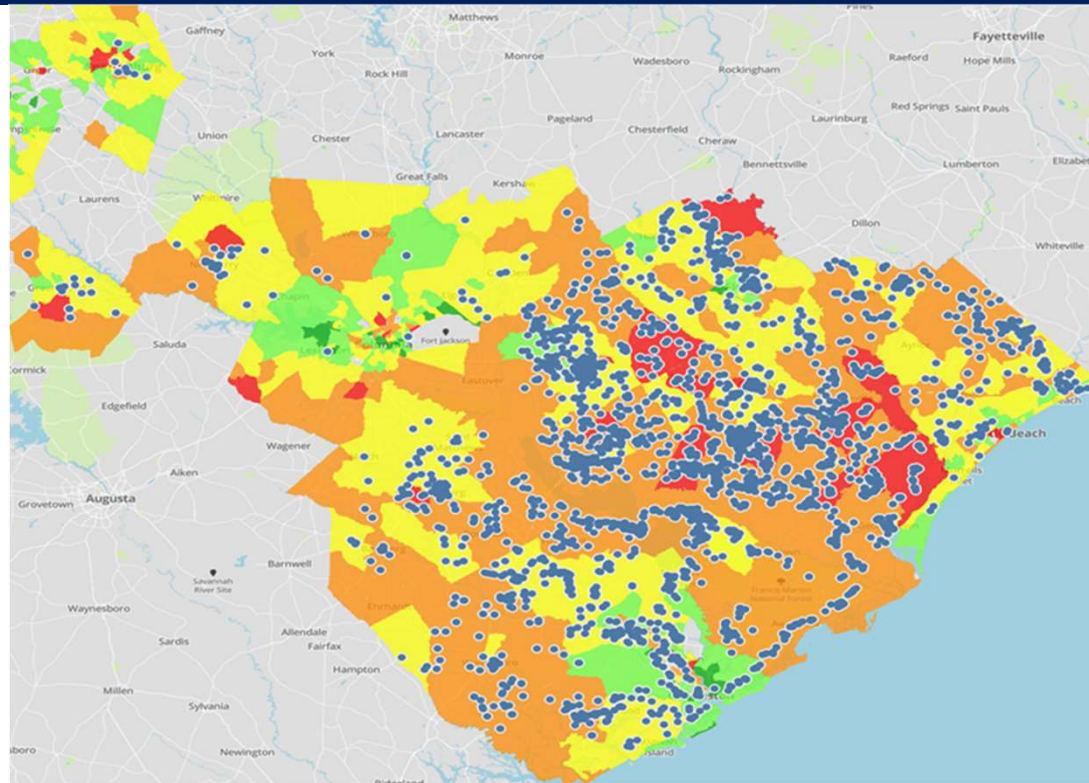
South Carolina County-level Social Vulnerability Index Summary

<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/geog/hvri/sovi%C2%AE-0>

Sources: - Dr. Christopher Emrich, HVRI, USC



SEVERE STORM 2015 OVER SOVI

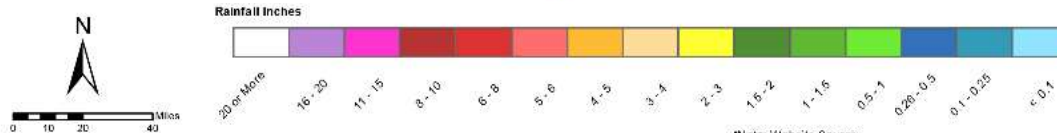
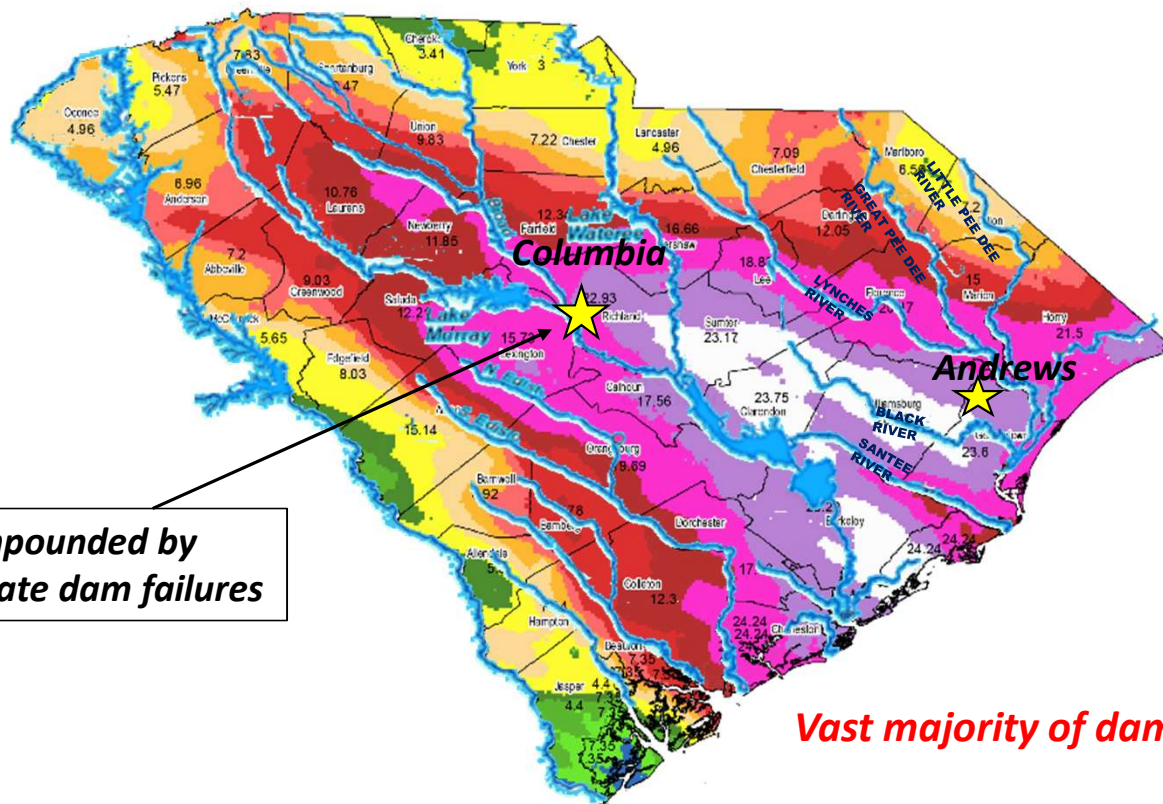


- ☐ 3,800 Citizens applied
- ☐ 2,800 Citizens eligible
- ☐ 2,350 Citizens kept in the program
- ☐ **1,159 Citizens served so far**
- ☐ **2,150 Citizens projected to be served**

<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/geog/hvri/sovi%C2%AE-0>



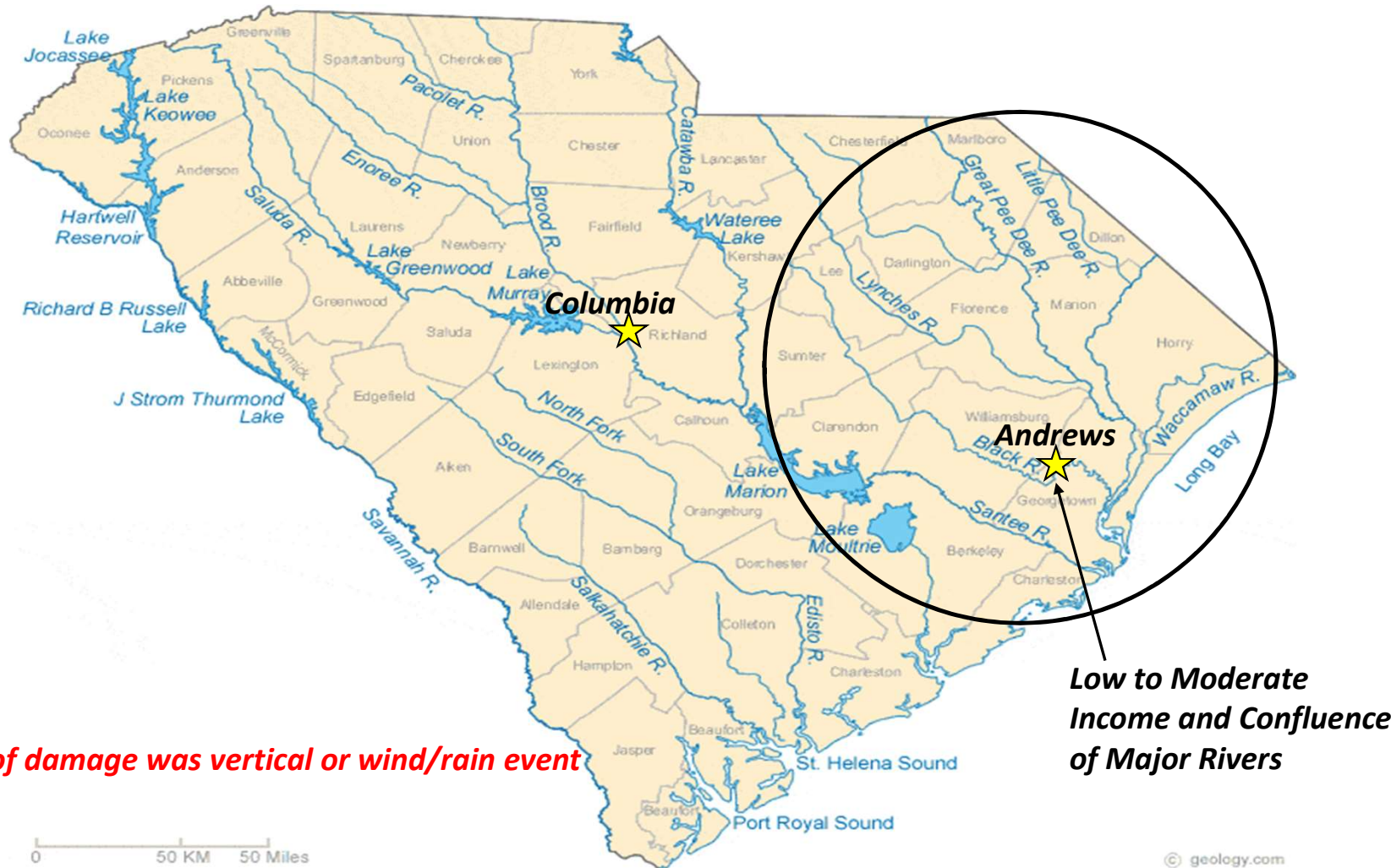
SEVERE STORM 2015 1000 YEAR FLOOD



*Note: Website Source
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge2/Precipagehourlyshapefiles/>



MAJOR RIVERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

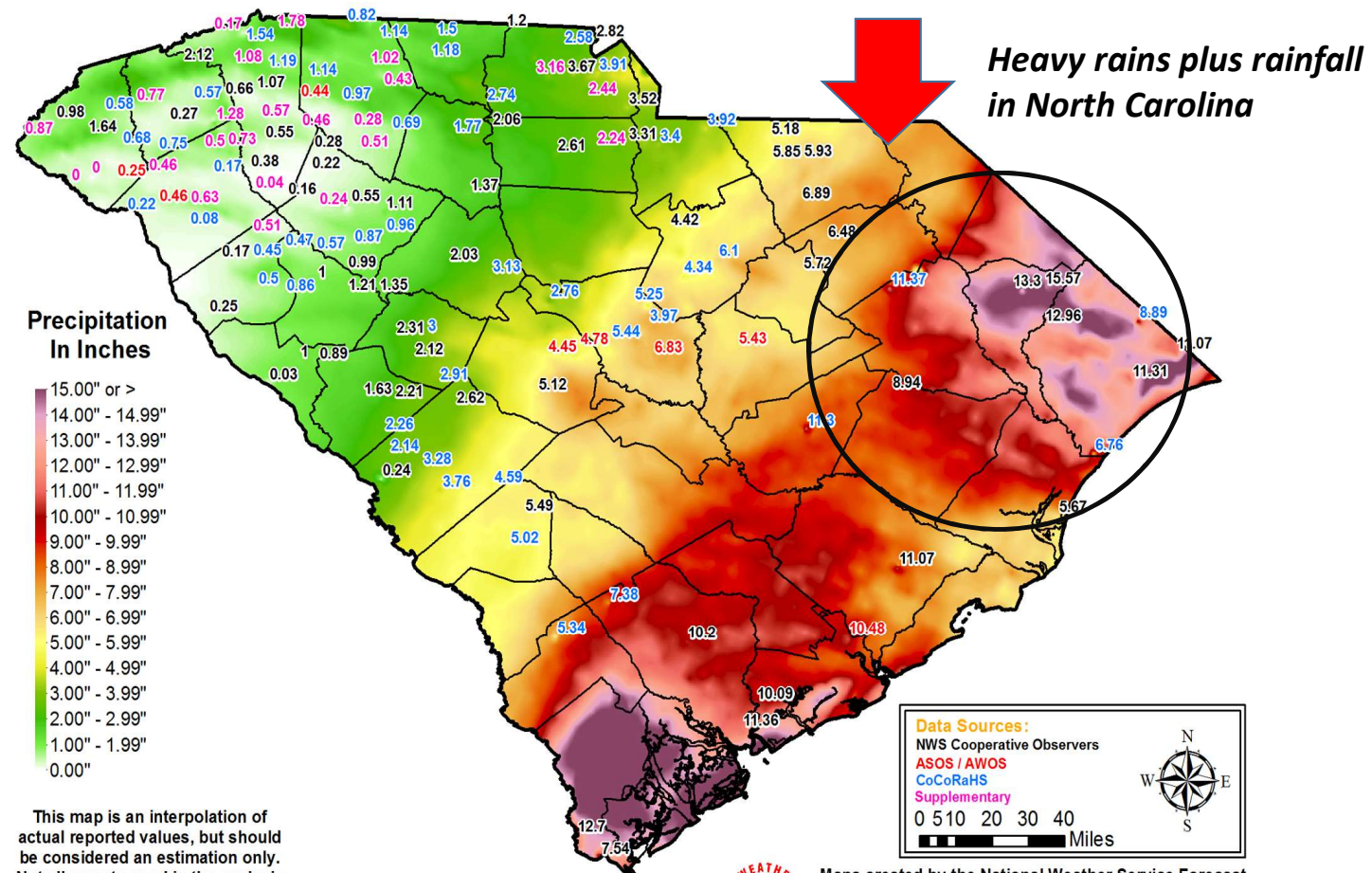


Vast majority of damage was vertical or wind/rain event

*Low to Moderate
Income and Confluence
of Major Rivers*



HURRICANE MATTHEW 2016 RAINFALL



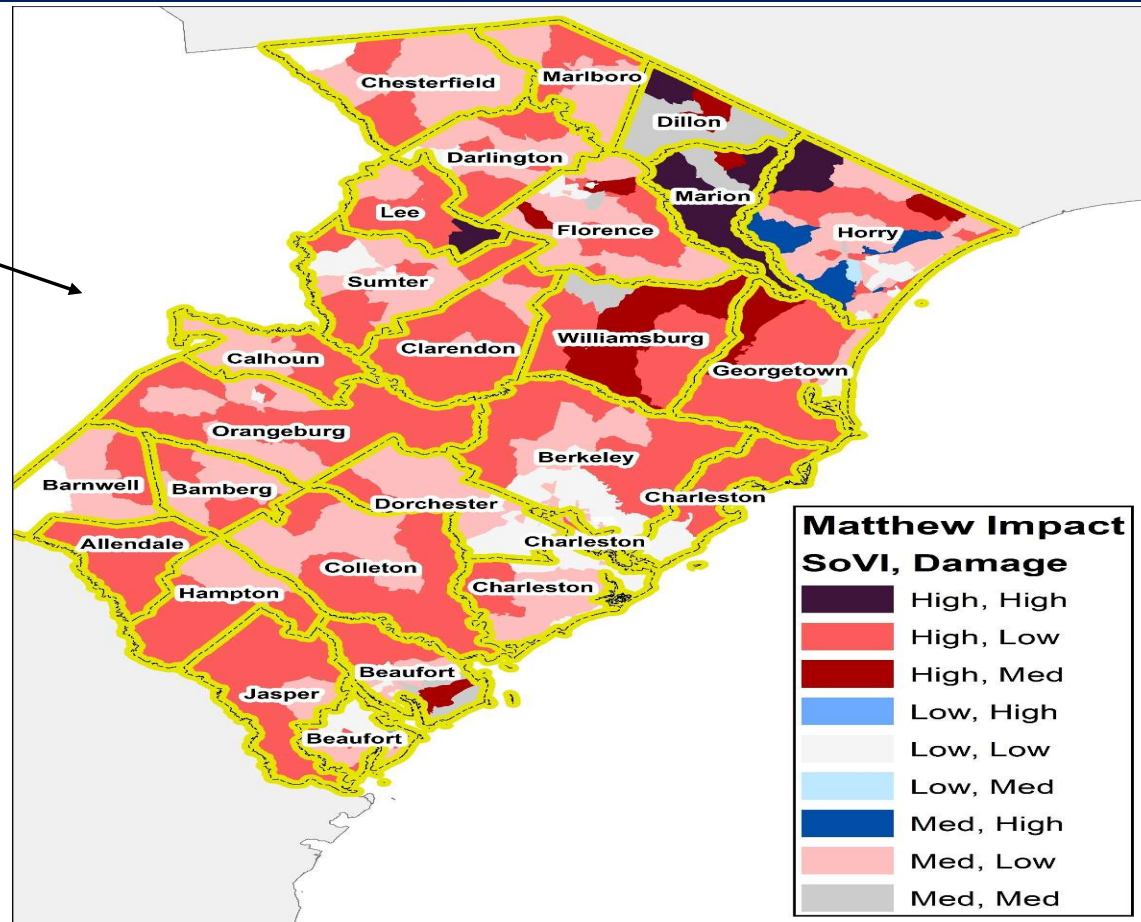
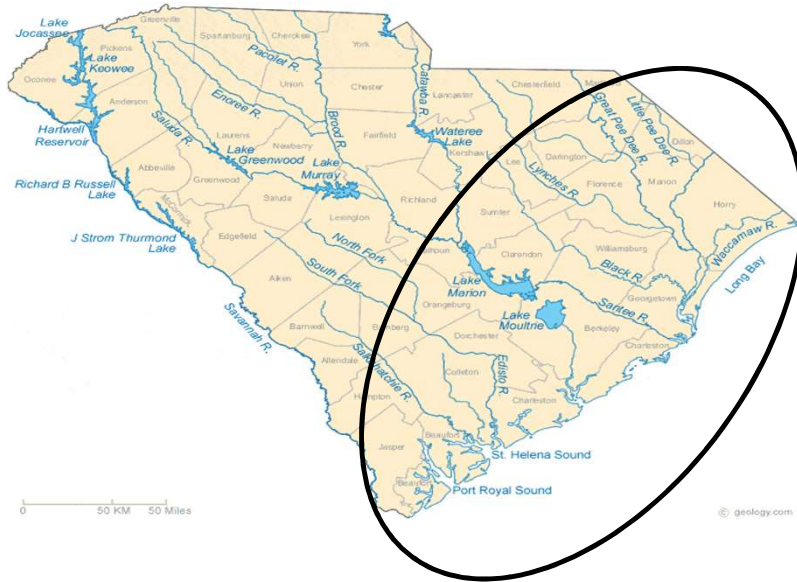
This map is an interpolation of actual reported values, but should be considered an estimation only. Not all reports used in the analysis will be displayed due to space constraints. Reports are precipitation through the above mentioned period.



Maps created by the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Greenville/Spartanburg and in cooperation with the NWS Forecast Offices in Columbia and Charleston South Carolina as well as Wilmington North Carolina.



2016 HURRICANE

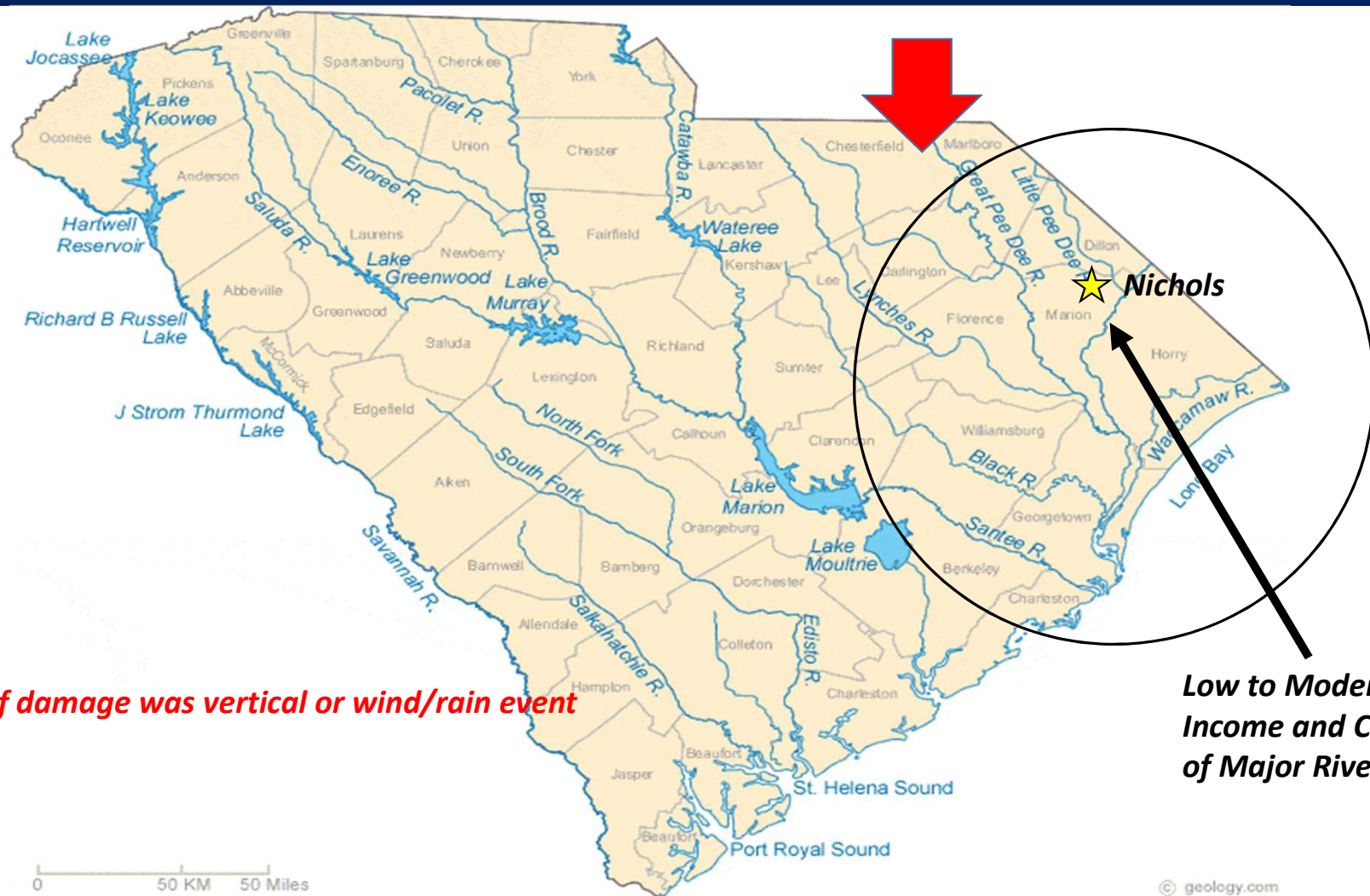


- ☐ 3,900 Citizens applied
- ☐ 1,650 Citizens eligible
- ☐ **220 Citizens served so far**
- ☐ **1,350 Citizens projected to be served**

<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/geog/hvri/sovi%C2%AE-0>



MAJOR RIVERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA



PRECEPTS

- ❑ HUD released press announcement on April 10, 2018 which authorized \$90,026,000 in mitigation funds associated with Severe Storm 2015 and \$67,574,000 in mitigation funds for 2016 Hurricane Matthew
- ❑ Purpose of the grant is mitigation against future disasters and to avoid repeated recovery efforts
- ❑ Two separate grants directed to mitigate future disasters associated with the 2015 Severe Storm and the 2016 Hurricane
- ❑ 80% of funds mandated to benefit HUD-designated Most Impacted and Distressed counties

Severe Storm 2015

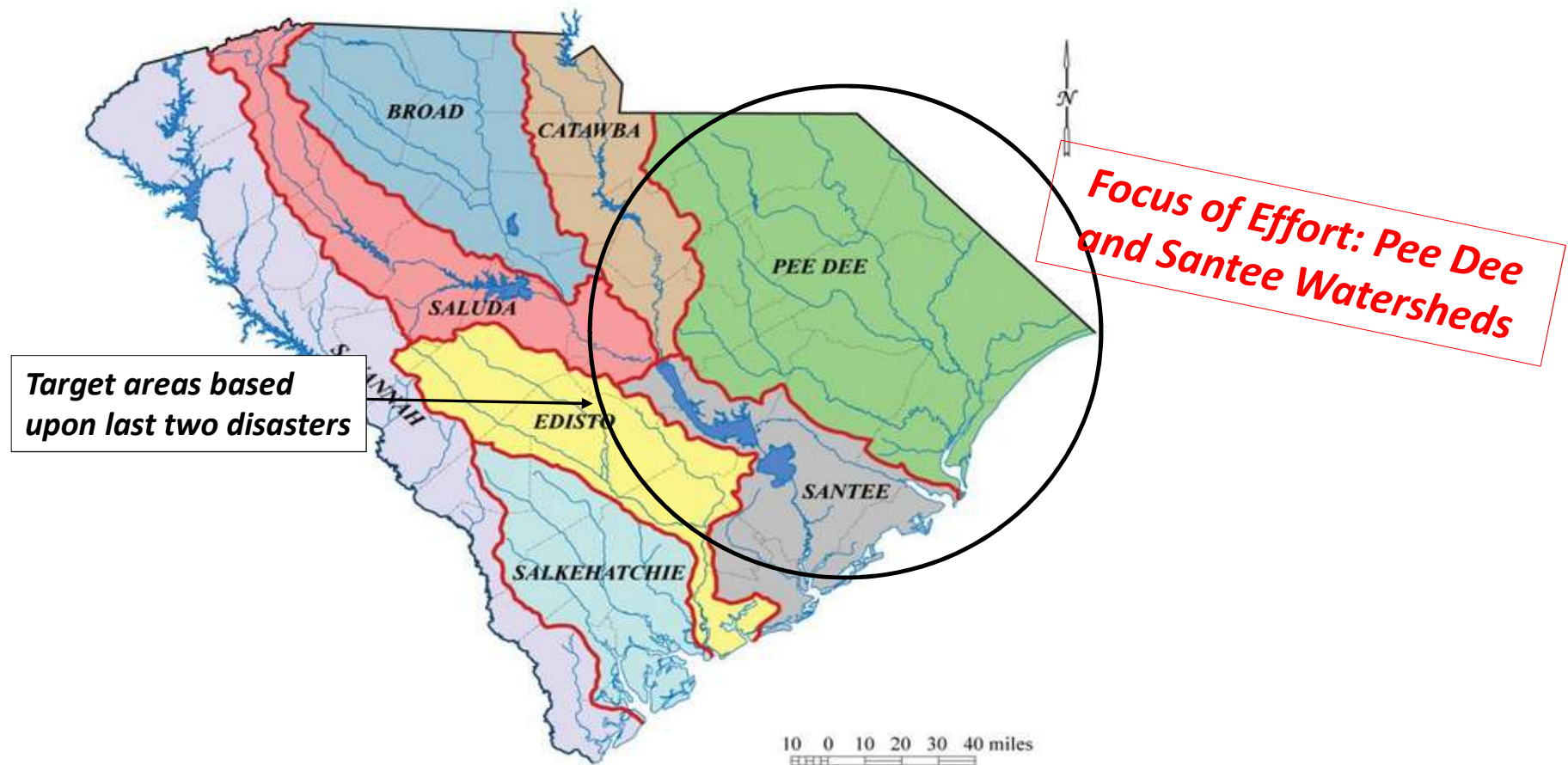
- Charleston
- Clarendon
- Dorchester
- Florence
- Georgetown
- Horry
- Sumter
- Williamsburg

Hurricane Matthew 2016

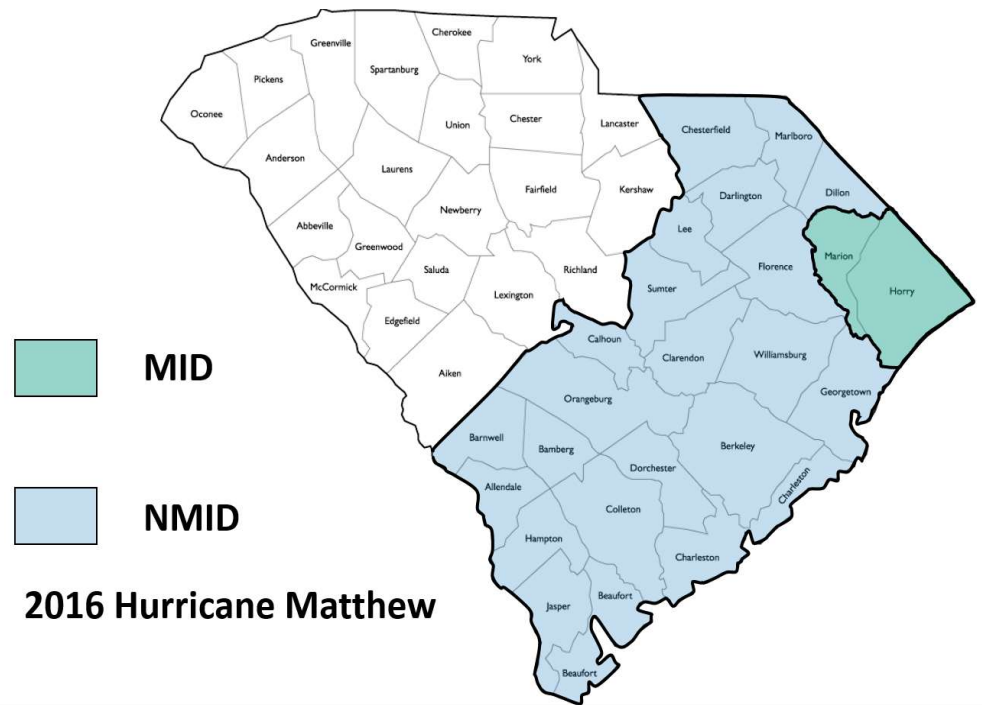
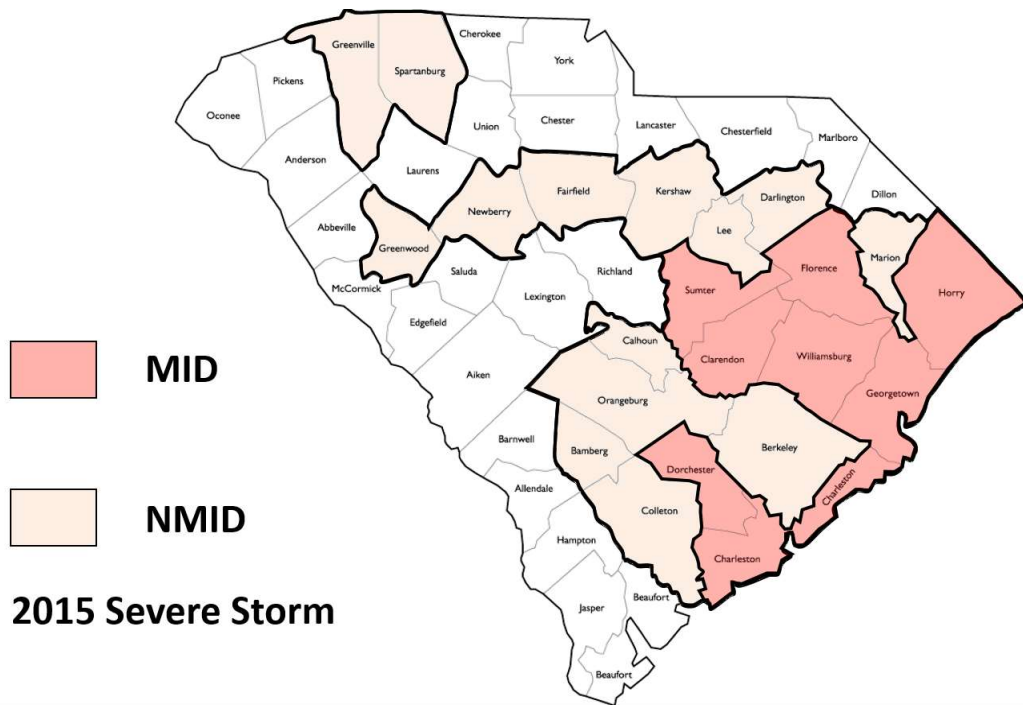
- Horry
- Marion



WATERSHEDS CROSS MULTIPLE COUNTIES



PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION BY AREA



PROGRAM STRATEGY

Lines of Effort



TOTAL PROJECTED INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS

Severe Storm 2015 (Primary Benefit to Charleston, Clarendon, Dorchester, Horry, Florence, Georgetown, Sumter, and Williamsburg Counties)	Hurricane Matthew 2016 (Primary Benefit to Marion and Horry Counties)	TOTAL
\$60M	\$45M	\$105M



STUDY OVERVIEW

- ☐ The primary objective of the study is to mitigate against future flood damage impacting low to moderate income properties in the study areas.
- ☐ All projects must provide a direct benefit to the HUD-designated Most Impacted and Distressed Counties.
- ☐ SCDRO places no restrictions on the type of projects to be recommended. Buyouts may only be considered when required to complete an infrastructure construction project.



PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

- ☐ Environmental concerns (potential obstacles, type of environmental review required)
- ☐ Hydrological estimate of water retained, detained, or diverted, to include estimated financial protections to property
- ☐ Clearly defined benefit to LMI community
- ☐ Clearly defined prioritization of projects with documented basis for prioritization



LOW/MODERATE INCOME REQUIREMENT

CDBG-funded public facilities and improvements will typically be categorized under the LMI Benefit national objective as an Area Benefit activity.

Under the area benefit criteria, the public facility/improvement must benefit all residents of an area where at least 51% of the residents are LMI.

The service area need not have coterminous boundaries with census tract borders or other officially recognized boundaries, but must be primarily residential in nature.

All proposed projects in the study must meet the LMI Benefit national objective.

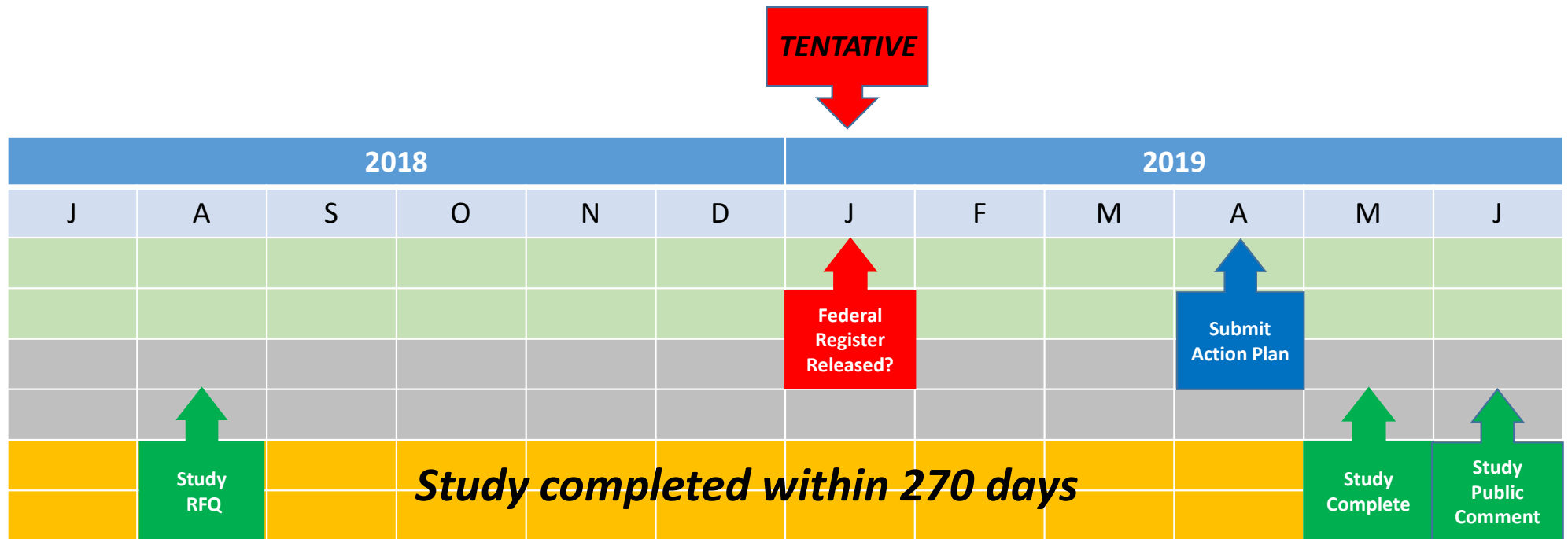


PROVING LMI BENEFIT

- ❑ For each proposed project, the study must identify the following criteria:
 - Boundaries of the service area;
 - Documentation that the area is primarily residential (e.g., zoning map); and
 - Income characteristics of households in the services area (Census/American Community Survey data).



NOTIONAL TIMELINE



*****Study start date to be negotiated between SCDRO and the selected consultant*****

STUDY DELIVERABLES

- ☐ Contract Award (C) +60 Days: Formal brief and accompanying data for existing watershed studies in the target area
- ☐ C+120 Days: Survey of potential projects delivered to SCDRO
- ☐ C+180 Days: Prioritized list of projects due to SCDRO
- ☐ C+210 Days: Evidence of Benefit to LMI community for prioritized projects delivered to the SCDRO
- ☐ C+240 Days: Cost-Benefit Analysis for all projects due to SCDRO
- ☐ C+270 Days: Final study and accompanying brief due to SCDRO



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

1. Q. Will a contracting team for the study be conflicted out of work for the implementation phase?

A. No; the study under this contract should NOT INCLUDE design, engineering, and/or architectural specifications.

2. Q. Is the intention of this RFQ to create a broad resilient trajectory for the study area, or to develop scope for the available CDBG funding?

A. Develop scope for the available CDBG funding.

3. Q. Will SCDRO be able to provide access to previous watershed plans, studies, Declared Disaster Reports, etc?

A. No.

4. Q. Are SOVI vulnerability assessments complete and ready to integrate?

A. No.

5. Q. Will SCDRO be able to provide existing hydrologic and hydraulic models (likely used for FEMA floodplain mapping) for the watersheds to utilize in the project?

A. No. SCDRO will assist the selected consultant with obtaining data in the event that it can only be released to a government entity. We expect the selected consultant to act with due diligence in identifying and obtaining existing studies and data.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

6. Q. Does SCDRO assume that completed H&H modeling is sufficient or that new modeling is required?
A. Completed hydrologic and hydraulic modeling will suffice depending on the age of the data; the study should be justifiable under public scrutiny where future conditions have been analyzed and captured.
7. Q. How does SCDRO define the successful completion of “extensive research” and “extensive surveys” the selected team will be asked to conduct?
A. The outcome is defined as creative and executable infrastructure projects against future flooding disasters within the parameters of the RFQ.
8. Q. How does SCDRO define “risk assessment” for the purposes of item 9.k? Does this refer to a natural hazards risk assessment related to each proposed construction project or is this referring to project and/or financial risk associated with each proposed construction project? If the latter, what level of detail and risk components are envisioned to be included?
A. The selected consultant would outline the scope of the risk assessment.
9. Q. It is assumed the Cost-Benefit analysis to be completed will consist of usual FEMA procedures as well as the SOVI considerations. Please confirm this understanding is correct.
A. The selected consultant is responsible for recommending the best CBA course of action.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

10. Q. What level of economic impact analysis for the construction projects on the local economy is envisioned and what key factors must be included to satisfy SCDRO requirements?

A. The selected consultant is charged with recommending the level of economic impact analysis for the infrastructure projects in order to make the best decision on the use of available funds.

11. Q. Is the selected team expected to incorporate HUD Community Feedback Requirements (CFRs) for the available funding? If yes, when are the CFRs expected to be published?

A. SCDRO does not anticipate the requirement to incorporate HUD Community Feedback Requirements, but if necessary in the future, the selected consultant should be prepared to execute.

12. Q. Has SCDRO developed criteria for the “comprehensive assessment” of impacts on LMI communities? Does SCDRO expect this criteria to include impacts other than flooding?

A. SCDRO has not developed criteria for the "comprehensive assessment" of impacts on LMI communities. The primary concern is flooding.

13. Q. Are there CDBG-R timeframe commitments driving the schedule as proposed?

A. No.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

14. Q. In order for us to better organize and prepare our resources, what is the anticipated budget for this project?

A. The project budget is to be negotiated between SCDRO and the selected consultant.

15. Q. What is the team selection timeframe?

A. September-October 2018.

16. Q. How are team selection criteria weighted?

A. The final selection will be based on SC Office of State Engineer's Evaluation, SE-215.

17. Q. How many team members will be asked to attend the monthly in person progress reviews?

A. As many as needed to deliver the brief.

18. Q. Are there specific requirements on the submission requirements beyond those listed in Section 3? (i.e. Page limits, font size, etc.)

A. No.

19. Q. Who supported the State in preparing the Action Plans for the 2015 flood and Hurricane Matthew?

A. Horne, LLP and the USC Hazard Vulnerability Research Institute assisted the State in preparing the 2015 Flood Action Plan. SCDRO staff developed the Hurricane Matthew Action Plan.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

20. Q. Who is currently serving as the State's Program Manager for the CDBG-DR program?

A. J. R. SANDERSON

21. Q. Will the current Program Manager be involved in assisting the State in managing this project?

A. Yes.

22. Q. Instructions to “provide that data set” are included with several Scope/Deliverable items. It is unclear if there is a requirement to provide a formal written report of the data identified or provide an inventory of the data along with the data, please clarify.

A. *The selected consultant should provide the data sets in a format that is easy to understand. The consultant will be responsible for determining the best approach to delivering the required data.*

23. Q. When assessing impacts to Low-Moderate income properties, with SCDRO provide property level information or will this assessment be based on census block information?

A. *The assessment should be based on census block information.*

24. Q. Does “provide that data set” include providing the previous watershed studies identified or provide the results of the research (a summary of the projects), or providing a formal written report of the research results.

A. *Yes to all of the above.*



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

25. Q. Is the 270 day deadline a fixed deadline? Delays in gaining access to information from other agencies could cause challenges in delivering key components based on factors outside the control of the contractor.

A. The goal is to have the study complete within 270 days. Accommodations for reasonable and justifiable delays outside of the consultant's control may be made.

26. Q. Does the SCDRO have a list of sources required to perform the research?

A. No

27. Q. Can you further define data set as it relates to expected deliverable?

A. The selected consultant is expected to define the data set.

28. Q. Has SCDRO already coordinated with other State agencies (SCDNR, SCDOT, etc.) in advance of this RFQ?

A. No.

29. Q. If the specific agency does not respond to our request for information, will the SCDRO assist in requesting this information?

A. Yes.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

30. Q. Is it anticipated that the previous watershed studies are to be used for assessing the potential projects? Or will updated watershed modeling be used?

A. The selected consultant will be responsible for determining whether or not existing studies will be sufficient to assess potential projects.

31. Q. Does the SCDRO have a list of potential projects already identified?

A. No list has been created.

32. Q. If a list is available, can it be provided in GIS format as part of the procurement effort?

A. N/A

33. Q. Please define the “designated programmatic parameters.”

A. Designated programmatic parameters is defined as infrastructure projects that mitigate future flood impact to areas that are primarily Low to Moderate Income per HUD.

34. Q. Will SCDRO provide the “established and defined criteria” to be used for project screening as part of the procurement process?

A. The consultant will be responsible for developing the established and defined criteria.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

35. Q. Is there a defined number of projects to be prioritized?

A. No

36. Q. What “impact” is to be assessed? Is this just looking at hydrologic/hydraulic impacts of the projects under consideration?

A. Within the RFQ, "impact" is used numerous times. In summary terms, "impact" refers to any effect of the proposed projects in the prevention of flood damage to the LMI community.

37. Q. What cost benefit approach is required for evaluating these projects?

A. The selected consultant is responsible for recommending the best CBA course of action.

38. Q. Is there a requirement for public involvement/comments in the development of the final plan?

A. The final plan(s) will be posted for public comment once complete.

39. Q. Will SCDRO make building footprint and address information available in a GIS format to make these assessments?

A. No. SCDRO will assist the consultant in obtaining available data from other governmental entities if no response is received.



SOLICITATION QUESTIONS

40. Q. Can you provide further clarification on this requirement?

A. Within 9 months of contract award, the selected firm will provide SCDRO with a comprehensive and holistic watershed flood mitigation strategy to mitigate watershed damage for designated LMI communities including a prioritized list of specific projects as stated in the RFQ.

41. Q. Please define the requirements for a “holistic risk assessment”.

A. "Holistic risk assessment" is characterized as all associated risks for the consultant-proposed project.

42. Q. Can you provide further clarification on this requirement?

A. Within 9 months of contract award, the selected firm will provide SCDRO with a comprehensive and holistic watershed flood mitigation strategy to mitigate watershed damage for designated LMI communities including a prioritized list of specific projects as stated in the RFQ.

43. Q. Is it acceptable to use available topographic data from SCDNR or USGS as the source for this schematic?

A. Yes.

44. Q. Please provide guidance on how the selected contractor is to identify these geopolitical issues.

A. The selected consultant should have the capability as part of this study to assess challenges relative to political, environmental and infrastructure construction.



END OF BRIEFING

Thank you for attending.



Attached are supplemental questions and answers in reference to SCDRO's Comprehensive Watershed Study (RFQ P32-N017-MJ). This information will also be uploaded to the SCDRO website.

08/14/2018

1. Q. Form SE-210 Invitation for Professional Services notes that submissions are limited to 20 pages (excluding SF330). However, Section 3: Submittal Information, Item 2 requests "Firm's listing of completed watershed wide flood mitigation studies with Executive Summary of the study...". Inclusion of the actual Executive Summary from one of the plans could require a 2-10 page document. Is the intent to provide a summary of the work as opposed to the actual Executive Summary from the reports delivered to the client? If actual Executive Summary is to be included, can it be an attachment that doesn't count against the 20 page limit?

1. A. The intent is to provide a bibliography and abstract of the firm's watershed studies. Details of each study should be available if selected for an interview.

2. Q. Delivery Address – please clarify the location for delivery of the proposals. Two addresses are listed in the documents (632 Rosewood Drive and 1201 Main Street, Suite 1600)

2. A. Please deliver the resumes to 1201 Main Street, Suite 1600

3. Q. During the pre-proposal meeting, Mr. Sanderson referenced the RFQ and indicated that selection would be based on qualifications and a scope/approach was not required as part of the submission. In reviewing the RFQ documents, Section 3: Submittal Information, Item 3 requests "Firms Plan of Action and Milestones" which seems to be asking for specific approach and schedule. Can you clarify this requirement?

3. A. The POAM should show high level courses of action. Details of the programmatic critical paths should be available if selected for an interview.

4. Q. As discussed over the phone, we have a question regarding the format desired/required for this RFQ response. Chapter 4, Section 4.4.4, indicates that each submittal shall include "Federal Standard Form 330". Does the state require a full 330 with Part 1 and Part 2? A full Section H? or a hybrid, like the SCDOT asks for where there is a front section that is more like a standard proposal, with the 330 information in the back of the proposal documents?

4. A. The full 330 needs to be included, but they should only include information relevant to this project. Section H can be addressed in other resume information. It sounds like what SCDOT ask for is appropriate.

5. Q. Also will each sub have to complete the 330 documents?

5. A. Each major consultant proposed as part of the team must also include an SF 330.

SE-212

NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION FOR INTERVIEWAGENCY: SC Department of Commerce - SC Disaster Recovery OfficePROJECT NAME: Disaster Recovery Office - Comprehensive Watershed StudyPROJECT NUMBER: P32-N017-MJ**TO ALL FIRMS RESPONDING TO THE INVITATION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE NAMED PROJECT:**

Having reviewed the resumes submitted in response to the *Invitation for Professional Services* for the above-named Project, and having evaluated those responses and other information available in accordance with the requirements of SC Code § 11-35-3220, the Agency Selection Committee has determined that the firms listed below are deemed the most qualified to provide the required services. The below-listed firms are selected for interview:

NAME OF A/E: AECOMNAME OF A/E: ESP Associates, Inc.NAME OF A/E: StantecNAME OF A/E: McCormick Taylor

NAME OF A/E: _____

NAME OF A/E: _____

NAME OF A/E: _____

NAME OF A/E: _____

AGENCY CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above-named firms have submitted all of the information required in the *Invitation for Professional Services*; that the Agency Selection Committee conducted this selection in accordance with the requirements of the SC Consolidated Procurement Code and Regulations and the *Manual for Planning and Execution of State Permanent Improvements, Part II*, and that the Committee selected the above-named firms for interview and priority ranking.

BY: _____

(Signature of Selection Committee Chair)

DATE: September 10, 2018PRINT NAME: J.R. SANDERSONTITLE: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE AGENCY:**

1. Submit a copy of the completed SE-212 to the OSE Project Manager.
2. Send a copy of the completed SE-212 to all firms who responded to the Invitation.
3. Retain the original in the Agency's procurement file.